



July 8th , 2020

House Committee on Finance

Re: Support of Bill 7624 – Nursing Home Staffing Quality Care Act

Dear chairman and members of the House Committee on Finance:

The RI Interfaith Coalition to Reduce Poverty is writing today in strong support of bill 7624- Nursing Home Staffing Quality Care Act.

Now more than ever we need to stand up and support the vulnerable populations in Rhode Island. Before the pandemic nursing home workers were already overworked, and underpaid, which lead to residents being under serviced. Now because of the pandemic, the crisis has worsened and become even more dire. The time for inaction has passed- we must act now to support nursing home health care workers who are putting their lives on the line every day for their fellow Rhode Islanders.

The RI Interfaith Coalition to Reduce Poverty is a coalition of faith leaders and advocates throughout Rhode Island, who are working to end poverty and fight inequality. Our collective faiths are united in the belief that we must fight injustice and help those in need. To deny nursing home residents adequate care, and to deny nursing home healthcare workers adequate resources, is an injustice. Passing this legislation would be a needed declaration of solidarity with frontline - essential workers who are taking care of one of the most vulnerable populations in our state.

Thank you for your time and for supporting this legislation, and for helping Rhode Islanders in need.

Sincerely,

David Veliz
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